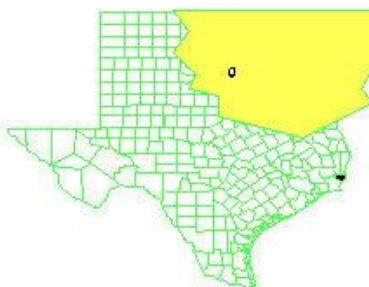


**TRIANGLE  
CHEMICAL CO.  
TEXAS**

**EPA ID# TXD055143705  
Site ID: 0602026**



**EPA REGION 6  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 02  
Orange County**

**Contact: Ruben Moya  
214-665-2755**

**Last Updated: June 2013**

## **Background**

### **Site will begin annual updates.**

The Triangle Chemical Company Site is located in Bridge City, Orange County, Texas, in the southeast corner of the state. The City of Bridge City has a population of approximately 8,500. The Site is located on a 2.3 acre tract of land on Texas State Highway (SH) 87 approximately ½ mile north of Bridge City. The Site is bounded by Coon Bayou to the northwest, a commercial property on the north, a private residence on the south, and SH 87 on the east.

The Site is currently vacant, and there do not appear to be any plans for future use. The Triangle Chemical Company buildings remain on-site, but they are in a state of significant disrepair, and one building has collapsed. The Site is currently fenced, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) maintains the fence and nine monitor wells on the Site.

The Triangle Chemical Company operated a chemical mixing and blending facility from the early 1970's until 1981. Various types of chemicals were handled at the Site, including industrial cleaning compounds, automotive brake fluid, windshield washer solvent, hand cleaners, and pesticides. The raw materials and finished products were stored at the Site in surface storage tanks and 55 gallon drums. Waste management practices at the Site were poor, and contamination at the Site resulted from discharges from deteriorated drums and spills and leaks from drums and tanks. As a result, the Site soils and ground water became contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs). Local residents reported seven fish kills in Coon Bayou during a six year period between March 1976 and October 1982. The fish kills were believed to have resulted from discharges of hazardous materials from the Site to the bayou.

## **Current Status**

**Site will begin annual updates given the final stage(s) of cleanup currently in. A Fourth 5yr Review was begun and completed in August 2011.** The remedy was found to be protective of human health and the environment in the short term and would remain so provided action items discovered in the report were addressed and/or implemented.

The exposure threat to residents and nearby Coon Bayou were eliminated by initial actions which secured the site and removed contaminated materials, as well as the completed actions which decontaminated and treated identified contamination areas. Final goals were achieved for the cleanup of the surface contamination. The first Five-Year review report was completed on July 11, 1994 in which the report concluded the remedy was still protective of health and the environment and recommended continuing the ground water monitoring.

The State of Texas is continuing to monitor ground water at the site to ensure that water quality reaches

acceptable levels. The Site Close Out Report signed by EPA's Regional Administrator on September 27, 1990, signified the completion of remedial action. The Notice of Deletion of the Triangle Chemical Company from the NPL was signed February 21, 1997. The second Five-Year Review was completed on June 1, 2001, which further established that the Triangle Chemical Company site continues to be protective of human health and the environment. Data reviews obtained from State of Texas (TCEQ's) monitoring lend credence to the presumption, made by the TCEQ and its subcontractor, that the groundwater contamination at the site is not migrating. The third Five Year Review was complete and signed May 15, 2006. EPA has determined by this review that the remedy for the Triangle Chemical Company Superfund Site is protective of the human health and the environment in the short term, and will remain so provided the action items identified in the five-year review are addressed as described within.

## Benefits

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53,000 gallons of hazardous liquids, and over 3,000 cubic yards of contaminated sludge waste have been effectively remediated at the Triangle Chemical site, in addition, approximately 1,000 55-gallon drums, 21,000 gallons of tank liquids, and 350 cubic yards of contaminated trash, debris and soil were removed from this site. Further benefits include, the site is currently being monitored by the State of Texas for Remedy effectiveness.

## Site Description

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**Location:** The site is located 1/2 mile south of Orange County Airport on Highway 87, Bridge City, Orange County, Texas.  
The site is bounded by Coon Bayou and the highway.

**Population:** The area is moderately populated, with 15 permanent residents and 50 mobile homes within 1/4 mile of the site.

**Setting:** The nearest residence is 200 feet south of the site.  
The facility covers 2.3-acre, with three buildings on-site.  
30 aboveground storage tanks have been removed.

**Hydrology:** A shallow water-bearing zone is found 5-8 feet below surface.  
The drinking water zone is 300-700 feet below surface.

## Wastes and Volumes

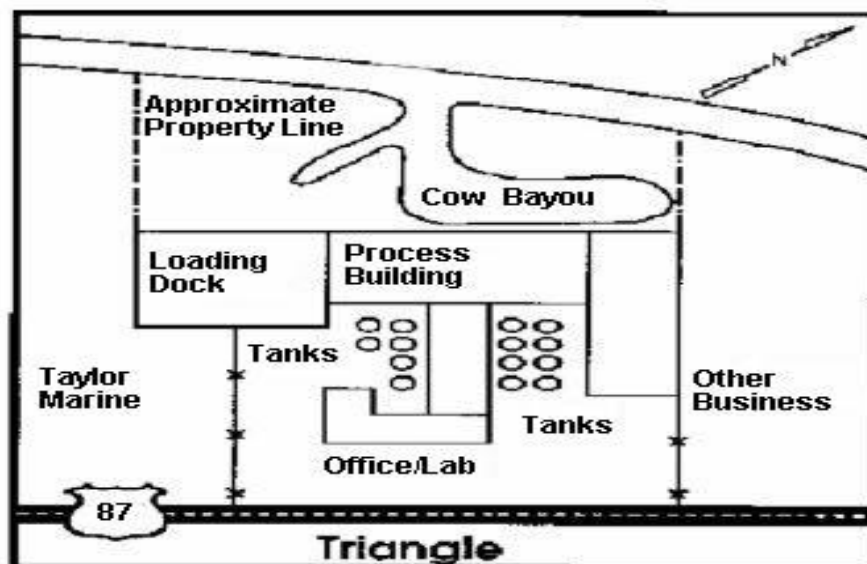
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! The principal pollutants at the site included ethylbenzene, benzene, chlorobenzene in tanks and soils prior to remediation.

- Site waste volumes were approximately 53,000 gallons of liquid in tanks, and 3,200 cubic yards of and placed in the fortified on-island disposal area.

## Site Map

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## The Remediation Process

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### Site History:

- The site was abandoned in 1981 and placed in custody of the bankruptcy court.
- During April through August 1982, EPA installed a fence, removed drums, bulked and solidified contaminated soils, then sent soils and equipment to a permitted landfill.
- Approximately 1,000 55-gallon drums, 21,000 gallons of tank liquids, and 350 cubic yards of contaminated trash and soil were removed.
- April 1985, EPA repaired the fence and dug a drainage canal after site was vandalized.
- The Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the site were completed in 6/85.

### Health Considerations:

- The site is located in a moderately populated area.

### Other Environmental Risks:

- Surface soil was contaminated with volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

## Site Assessment and Ranking

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**NPL Listing History**  
**Site HRS Score: 28.75**  
**Proposed Date: 12/30/82**  
**Final Date: 9/08/83**  
**NPL Update: No. 1**

## Record of Decision (ROD)

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**Signed: June 11, 1985**

The Record of Decision (ROD) for the Triangle Chemical site called for deep-well injection of liquids (53,000 gallons), and mechanical aeration of contaminated soils to release volatile organics to the atmosphere under controlled conditions.

### Other Remedies Considered

1. Off-site landfill of soils
2. On-site landfill
3. Capping site
4. "No action"

### Reason Not Chosen

Cost for double-lined facility too high.  
Cost too high, no available future land use.  
Contaminant leaching into shallow ground water.  
Would not abate threat to health and environment.

## Community Involvement

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- Community Involvement Plan: Developed 2/84, revised 11/87

- Proposed Plan Fact Sheet and Public Meeting: 5/85
- ROD Fact Sheet: 6/85
- Milestone Fact Sheets: 11/84, 3/85, 12/86, 1/87, 6/90, 8/90, 1/91
- Citizens on site mailing list: 41
- Constituency Interest: Low interest at this time - primarily landowners concerned about fish kills in the past.
- Site Repository: City of Orange Public Library, 220 North Fifth Street, West Orange, TX 77630

## Technical Assistance Grant

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- Availability Notice: None
- Grant Award: None
- Current Status: Site is closed out

## Site Contacts

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Remedial Project Manager (EPA):  
 State Contact (TCEQ):  
 EPA Public Liaison  
 Attorney (EPA):  
 EPA Toll Free Number

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